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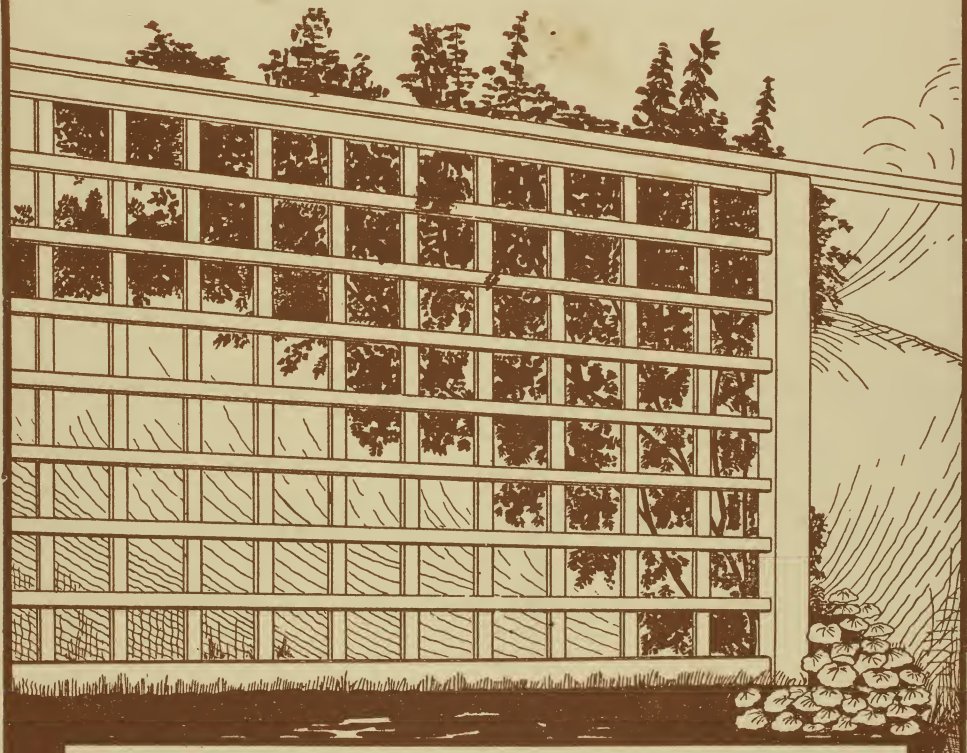
California Garden



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LATHHOUSE

JULY 1924 TEN CENTS

More Suggestions

THE EARLY BULBS

are beginning to arrive and it will soon be time to put them in the ground. Our FREESIAS are here already and they will be followed in a few days by an EXCEPTIONALLY FINE LOT of ANEMONES, RANUNCULUS, etc. These are all WONDERFUL for CUT FLOWERS and if you have not grown them before, don't forget them this year. If you have grown we KNOW YOU WILL WANT MORE.

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The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 16 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, JULY 1924 No. 1

A GREAT GARDENER

By J. Wilkinson Elliott.

In my travels over a considerable portion of the globe I have met several great men, great writers, lawyers, painters, preachers, architects and business men, but the one truly great man that I have known is William Robinson, one of the greatest of gardeners and the greatest writer about gardening that ever lived.

I think it was Victor Hugo who said that, "Genius is the capacity for taking infinite pains" and Robinson had that capacity beyond any man that I ever knew. First he acquired a knowledge of plants, trees and shrubs that is encyclopedic then a thorough cultural skill and added to these a deep and careful study of design and arrangement. How can any man make a successful plan for a garden who is not familiar with growing the material with which it is made? Yet many men attempt this, notably some modern architects who claim that the garden should be planned by the architect who builds the house. So great an architect as Stanford White planned the garden for his beautiful house at St. James, Long Island, and it is one of the poorest I have ever seen. The wise way is for the architect and landscape gardener to work together and their conjunction should be before the land for the site is purchased.

About seventy years ago Robinson went to London, a poor Irish boy, and secured employment in the gardens of the Royal Botanic Society. He would have preferred Kew Gardens, but this was impossible, but these, the greatest botanical gardens in the world, were always accessible for study and observation. In addition to his work in the Royal Gardens and his study at Kew, he spent his Sundays and holidays in the meadows and woodlands near London, where he studied the natural growth and arrangement of the wild flowers, and I have heard him say that no landscape gardener's education was complete until he studied the wildflower gardens of the Alps, which, though very beautiful indeed, are not so fine as those in Yellowstone Park.

After working for some years in the Royal Botanic Gardens he took up landscape gardening as a profession with considerable success and when he had accumulated sufficient capital started, much against the advice of his friends, the publication of the weekly periodical known as The Garden, which is still issued by Lord Harmsworth. At this time a new style of gardening known as "carpet bedding" had come into vogue in England and the lovely old gardens of England were being denuded of the old-fashioned hardy plants to make room for the gaudy weeds of the tropics. Millions of bedding plants were used in making poor imitations of inanimate objects. The absurd lengths to which this craze was carried are almost unbelievable. One ambitious gardener made a huge floral clock and constructed great wooden hands to move over the face of this silly contrivance. It was to fight this craze that Robinson established his magazine and with it and his numerous books he successfully battled for fifty years with all that was false and inartistic in gardening. He revolutionized the gardening of England (the best gardens of America are due to inspiration from his books) and incidentally made an ample fortune and when his means allowed went into Sussex and bought an old manor house wtih a thousand acres of land where he has demonstrated that every word he has written about gardening is true, and if there is a lovelier garden on this earth I have failed to find it. The garden proper is confined to a few acres about the house and the collection of plants is the most comprehensive to be found outside of a botanic garden. The health and vigor of the plants cannot be surpassed and the art of the garden is perfect, so perfect that many people never suspect it for it is the great art of simplicity and naturalness. It must not be thought that he devotes a thousand acres to ornamental grounds. Most of this land is occupied in farming and forestry work and through the forest there are many miles of woodland roads which are grassed instead of gravel. On these roads and along them are naturalized hardy plants and bulbs by the hundreds of thousands. A very delightful way of garden-

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ing and comparatively inexpensive, for after the initial planting no care is required. Two long narrow ponds in a valley give opportunity for beautiful bank planting and water gardening and to me this valley with its planting, water and an old timbered cottage occupied by the head gardener, makes one of the most beautiful pictures in all England. There is not a day in the year that there is not something in bloom. This does not mean much in California, but in England it is a great accomplishment. On March 10th, 1922, I went from London to spend the day at Gravetye Manor, the name of the place, and on the way down, a distance of thirty miles, I did not see a flower in any garden but at Gravetye I found a splendid display largely of early spring flowering bulbs and primroses. Last year, on the second of April, I found a perfect blaze of bloom, including the glorious Himalayan Rhododendrons, something I had not known could be grown out-of-dors in England.

The most valuable of all Robinson's books is "The English Flower Garden", undoubtedly the best book on gardening ever written. There are a thousand pages of it, four hundred devoted to arrangement of gardens and six hundred to a description of and directions for growing all the trees shrubs and plants in general cultivation. This book was not written for a semi-tropical climate like that of California, but it is one that no California owner of a garden should be without, the chapters on arrangement are worth many times the cost of the book and it is as much of an encyclopedia as most of us need.

Robinson believes in simple and natural arrangement and always went to nature for his inspiration. He is bitterly opposed to formal gardening and topiary work and greatly offended one of the Rothschilds by calling his garden a barbers garden. If you wish an example of forcible and convincing English get his book, "Garden Design", written to confute two English architects who had published one advocating formal gardening.

In writing more than in any other way Robinson showed his capacity for taking infinite pains. He wrote and rewrote sometimes a dozen, times he told me, before he allowed some chapters of his books to go to the printers. Literary effect was not his object, but to make his meaning clearly understandable to his readers, but such painstaking work produced a style that is wholly admirable.

One of his publications, "Gardening Illustrated", attained a circulation equal to that of the great London Dailies, but thirteen years ago he had a stroke of paralysis which destroyed the use of his legs. He sold his publications to Lord Harmsworth, but has continued to write and a recent book, "The Home Landscape", is an illustrated description of his own estate and the finest example of book making that I know of.

Robinson is now in his eighties and as keen mentally as ever. With the aid of a wheeled chair and a pony and phaeton he spends most of his time in his garden and on his estate, directing most of the work and all the improvements and he will motor to any part of England to see a good garden. If he were to come to California he would probably start a crusade against the red geranium because it has but little beauty, is neglected and shabby on account of its ease of culture and takes up a great deal of garden space that should be occupied by far more beautiful things.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE!

Rocked in the cradle of their shells
The little snails are sleeping (?)
While I beneath a starry sky
In solemnness am peeping—
With pan of sweet-bran-mash in hand—
Down every garden bed
To count the dead,
Intent alone on keeping
These pesky snails,
These baby snails
And papa snails and mamma snails
Beyond my sowing, reaping.

ESTELLE THOMSON.
Old Maid of 'Dobeytown.

AN OLD FRAUD AGAIN

Again the resurrection plant bobs up under various attractive names in tempting advertisements—beware, cautions the United States Department of Agriculture.

In past years various concerns have advertised this plant for sale under different names, and usually at prices far in excess of its market value. It is often sold by these concerns under the name "rose of Jericho" or "rose of Sharon" and said to be obtained from the Holy Land and to have been mentioned by "Solomon, Isaiah, and other prophets." The circular of one dealer which calls it "Semper Viva or Rose of Jericho" and offers it for the modest price of 25c, describes it as "a deodorizer" and "a preventative of disease." Claims are also made that it is "a preventative of moths and that if a few are scattered about the house they will keep out mosquitoes."

Another concern calls it the Persian Plant" or "Cinnamon Rose", mentioned by Isaiah in the Bible, and attempts to illustrate its appearance by giving a very poor figure of some cultivated primrose. The plant is said to bloom every thirty days, bearing "the most fragrant flowers in existence." Resurrection plant is, of course, not a seed plant, bears no flowers and is odorless, although the specimens sold by such concerns are often artificially scented.

A correspondent in North Carolina has reently sent the Department of Agriculture a specimen of this plant put up by an alleged "importing" company of New York, Jerusalem, and Montreal, and sold as "Genuine Rose of Sharon." After giving directions for growing the plant, the circular states: "Do not cut slips from these plants, as they propogate from seed. The roses go to seed only in Palestine." The regular price of this company is for plants "potted, in blossom, 25 to 28 inches growth, red, white, or pink, $1.00; the bulb, dormant, red, white, or pink, $2.75." As a special advertising offer, a set of three colors is sold for $2.75, or one "bulb" for 95c.

The true "Rose of Jericho" is a small white-flowered annual of the mustard family, Anastatica hierochuntica. It is a native of desert regions from Arabia and Syria to Algeria, and is supposed to be the "rolling thing before the whirlwind" mentioned in Isaiah. After flowering, the leaves fall off, and the branches become hard and woody and roll up into a ball, bearing the seed pods inside. In this State the plants, uprooted by the wind, are blown about the desert. When the winter rains fall the branches spread back, the pods open, and the seeds quickly germinate. Dried plants retain for years the property of opening when moistened, although they do not "come to life" in proper sense of the words. The plant was brought back to Europe by the Crusaders, and is the subject of many legends and much folklore. Concerns attempting to sell Selaginella lepidopyhlla as "Rose of Jericho" usually apply to it in their circulars much of the fable that belongs properly to the Anastatica.

Resurrection plant, Selaginella lepidophylla, bears no flowers, has no fragrance or insecticidal value, and is in no way connected with the Crusaders or the Holy Land. Its sale under the name "Rose of Jericho" or "Rose of Sharon" at exorbitant prices constitutes an evident fraud. Its proper market value is about 25c and it is well worth growing as a botanical curiosity.

Resurrection plant, Selaginella lepidophylla, a relative of the ground-cedar and groundpine used in making Christmas wreaths, is a native of the deserts from Texas southward into Mexico. In the dry State the branches, which are thickly covered with scale-like leaves, roll up into a brown ball, but when placed in water they expand forming a green leafy rosette. The plant is offered for sale in curio shops, particularly in the Southwestern States.

BIRDS OF OUR GARDEN

By The Early One

Zenaidura Macroura Carolinensis, I am glad the Mourning dove has that name, it needs it to carry around and supply its lack of brain, and why it should be spoken of by everybody as an almost sacred bird is most mysterious. If the community is afflicted with a person who complains about anything and everything in and out of season, even getting up in the middle of the night to do it, such is considered and labelled a public nuisance, but this bird, who can and does complain morning, noon and night, is regarded with affection, and what is the matter with its entertainment here is hard to conjecture. I had a California Poppy patch, the mourners camped on it and ate the seed clean, then they moved to the chicken yards and eat as much feed as the chickens, and every time I go by they wait till I am not looking and then get up suddenly with an amazing fuss of wing to mourn over their hard lot on a neighboring bough. Watch them on the ground and realize how inefficient feet and legs can be, they do know they are deficient here and prefer to light in stubbles or dry grass, where they can bob their foolish heads up and down as you pass, they are so afraid you won't notice them. They are modern housekeepers, they spend no undue thought or care upon their nest, none of the foolish symmetrical down lined affairs for them, a mouthful of sticks balanced precariously in as public a place as possible and only two eggs and lordy how the couple mourn over those saving, "What's the use of children any-

way?" In fairness to the dove it should be admitted that the nest is sanitary, when the wind blows it sweeps right through it and it would have to be a tenacious mite that could stick in it long enough to have progeny or lay an egg. You don't have to take the semi-domesticated dove like mine to find out what a poser the species is. Drive into the country among stubble fields and the telegraph wires and fence rails are dotted with doves all lined up to be observed, they teeter back and forth on the wires in the breeze with head and tail going up and down like a mechanical toy, only they are more mechanical. They do this most of the time and at odd moments give an exhibition of speed in flying that is amazing and bullet-like. When the auto chugs by them doing their fence act, one wonders how even with a close season and bag limit they have failed of extermination, then the season opens and you get a gun and find out, for the fence act is only a pose and they know the range of a shotgun exactly, and can beat a charge of shot to any given point when excited. If it were not for a fatal thirst that has been the undoing of many superior organisms it is doubtful if a bag limit of doves would ever be made, but they must drink at stated intervals, and this in a dry land, so the gunner waits by a waterhole and nabs them. This drink failing is due no doubt to a diet of seeds. I have read amazing analyses of the stomachs, or is it crops, of doves, there was enough in variety and quantity to plant a sizable wild patch. There are weed seeds in my garden, but the doves don't garner them, their chief delight is California Poppy and perhaps they should be classed with the Mexican, the mule and scraper, and realtor as contributing factors in its rapid disappearance. I am sure it acquires the poppy habit, similar in tenacity and results to opium indulgence in humans. A very old addict does stunts on the wire in front of the house, he cannot quite keep his balance but falls only half way to the ground when he catches himself and goes back to try again, mourning, "I am not drunk even if I act like it." Two old dopes raised a pair of young ones right under my nose and when the youngsters could leave the nest they squatted close together on the ground and watched Pa and Ma on a wire and remarked, "Ma ought to have her tail bobbed and hang the bob on Pa's head, then they both might balance, but what do we care, they are only parents,—but we must find out where they get it."

This may be a bit exaggerated, it must be, my better half actually loves these doves, she can enjoy their mourning as a continual performance when one squall from her truly baby puts her on the run.

Look out for Notice of Meetings in Daily Press.

SLAUGHTERING TREES

Los Angeles, June 9.—(To the Editor of The Times:) Tney have cut down the giant eucalyptus trees along Wilshire Bouvelard from Ocean avenue to Tent street in Santa Monica. These constituted the stateliest row of trees in Southern California. Planted under the auspices of Senator John P. Jones and Col. R. S. Baker, when they laid out the townsite of Santa Monica in 1875, these trees for half a century have formed one of the greatest charms of that city. With these trees gone the magnificent Wilshire Boulevard of the past becomes merely a commonplace speedway for the maniacs who look upon speed as the chief end of existence. And with the wholesale destruction of fine, well-grown trees that is going on elsewhere in the town it will soon lose its distinction for people who have chosen it as a place of residence because of the restful beauty of its well-shaded and ordered streets and park ways.

No "improvements" of any kind can ever take the place of the fine trees which have grown through half a century of time. It may be that God in His mercy can forgive the despoilers who sacrifice these eucalyptus trees for the sake of an added strip of pavement; but the real tree lovers of the Southland cannot find it in their hearts to forgive—or forget—such stupidity.

Some of us never wish to see Santa Monica again.

ROSE L. ELLERBE.

"HOLLAND'S FLOWER SHOW IN 1925"

"What promises to become the most extensive and comprehensive international exhibition of flowers and horticultural products ever attempted will be held in Holland during the Spring and early Summer of 1925.

The exhibition is organized by the General Association of Bulb Growers of Holland.

A large area of rich soil has been set aside in the park of Groenendaal near Heemstede, in the vicinity of Haarlem, where participants are already engaged in preparing the ground and planting the particular plants or bulbs in which they specialize. By timing the planting and by controlling the growth of various products the promoters of the flower show expect to be able to offer a riot of colors from the early part of March, when the crocus first peeps out from under the sod, to the end of May. A special Easter show of bulb flowers, such as tulips, hyacinths, narcissi, gladioli, etc., will be the piece of resistance of the flower show. In the buildings on the ground temporary exhibits of flowers from various European countries will be a constant attraction. England, especially, and Belgium with its orchids and azaleas will be prominent exhibitors. The flower show is expected to draw thousands of tourists from all over the world to Holland's famous bulb fields."

The July & Aug. Gardens

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary Matthews.

Probably the most essential things to be done this month are what we did last month, irrigate and cultivate. An immense amount of water can be wasted if not properly used, whether allowed to run on the ground or with overhead sprinkling. See that it goes slowly and regularly, so that every drop will go into the ground, and not be wasted.

Summer bedding subjects can still be put out. Zinnias, late asters, salvias, etc., try a few chrysanthemums for very late blooms. One specialist recommends cutting from top growth about six inches long, take off all the leaves except the top, put them into water over night, then dig a trench about eight inches deep, putting the dry earth to one side, let the water run in the trench until well soaked, then put the cuttings in to a depth of four inches, about eight inches or one foot apart; fill up partially with the muddy soil, and on top of this the dry dirt; in a very sunny spot, or if the weather is warm, shade for a few days—next month, if they have grown too close together, take out every other one, lifting carefully with a ball of earth around the roots, give a thorough soaking and shade for awhile and they will be none the worse for the shift. Many things can be transplanted at this season, with the care, and the treatment recommended above. Most specialists like to lift and divide bearded Iris during July and August; also if you have any gladiolous bulbs left over, put them in now. The Garden Magazine for July recommends something I should like to hear Mr. Cushman comment on, that is when cutting for blooms, they, instead of cutting, just pull up the whole thing, bulb and all, cut off the bloom stalk down to the base and there your bulb is ready for the next season. The idea is that when the bloom stalk is perfected, the bulb has made its growth and is mature. Whether this affects the increase of bulblets he does not say. Your order for bulbs for the fall planting should go in now ready for fall and bulbs will be scarce for several seasons. Your local dealers know by this time what they have and what prices will be. The last of this month and first of next get your ground ready and put in Freesias and paper white Narcissus for early blooms. Freesias ought to come in bloom by late December, planted at this time. A north location is preferable,

Continued on page 10

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

A great many people in California lose sight of the fact that this is an all the year round growing country, and while they answer very readily to "the call of the garden", after our winter and spring rains, they practically stop sowing and planting when mid-summer arrives, and just take care of what they have got, thereby missing a great deal of what they might have during practically the balance of the year.

Mid-summer certainly is, more particularly, a time for taking care of what we already have planted, because at this time of year evaporation is very great, which calls for more thorough watering and cultivation, and insect pests and plant diseases are particularly active, and if not attended to at this time, we simply lose the fruits of our labor. However, to the gardener who was late in getting started, or has unoccupied space in his garden, or the one who has just built a house and wants to plant a garden, he can go right ahead now and plant two-thirds of the vegetable list provided he works his land and gets it in a fine state of "tilth", which means being interpreted, a good seed bed or land which has been properly fertilized. Wet to a good depth, well spaded and then worked down to a fine surface.

With these conditions to start with and proper cultivation and watering kept up, plants and seeds will fairly jump at this time of year, because you have the warmth in the soil.

So you can joyfully go to work and plant beans, both bush and pole, beets, carrots, cabbage and cauliflower, either plants or seed, sweet corn and cucumbers, lettuce, melons (particularly the smaller ones like Rocky Ford), parsnips, peas, onion sets, if available, spinach, squash, both summer and winter, tomatoes and turnips. So you see the list is a pretty long one, but you can have them all if you give them the proper attention. But remember, that while mid-summer is a quick growing season, to raise seed and plants successfully you must give them a little closer attention, a little more water, more cultivation, always remembering to leave a full surface to prevent exaporation. If you can use a mulch of manure over the surface of the ground, it will help a lot to conserve your moisture, provided you water enough to be

Con'd on page 10

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

A. D. Robinson, Editor

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Mrs. Sidney E. Mayer, Associate Editor
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ADVERTISING RATES

One Page	$15.00	Half Page,	$7.50
Quarter Page	3.75	Eighth Page	2.00

Advertising Copy should be in by the 20th of each Month

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EDITORIAL

We are looking at an excellent halftone appearing in a recent issue of a Flower Magazine published in New York. It represents "Luther Burbank holding one of his recent developments, the Telegraph Plant. This is featured by huge leaves which grow in clumps at the ends of tentacles eight to ten feet long." That is what the printing below the picture says. We see Luther Burbank still a very good-looking man holding in his left hand a plant of Philodendron with two of its aerial roots stretching to a pot on the ground in front of him. We do not believe Mr. Burbank ever wished to convey the idea that by his genius he had evolved this plant, or that its name was as quoted under the picture, for the family Philodendron is very well known on the Pacific Coast, it being a favorite subject for planting in tubs for specimen plants to adorn banks, hotel lobbies, and patios and very few lathhouses fail of a representative. However the method of growth, as shown in this picture, with the head of the plant severed from its main stem and surviving by means of two of its aerial roots planted in a pot, while the plant can be fondled in the lap (see the picture) is curious and uncommon. We find by reference to our Bailey, which is getting old enough to have whiskers, the 1906 edition, that the commonest of these plants is classed as a Monstera, a genus of thirteen tropical American climbers, and its other name in contrast to the first, which means monster, is deliciosa. It fruits with us at Point Loma very much like an ear of corn that goes bad instead of getting ripe, and is extremely hardy.

It is perhaps no part of an editor's job to maunder about any particular plant, but it may be to prevent some folks barely recovered from the spineless cactus obsession rushing into the Telegraph business, better buy a radio set.

Just the other day we read a filler in the daily press, this is it: "A coil of human hair, from the head of a woman of the Roman era, and held in place by jet hairpins, is preserved in an English museum." Just by way of preface it may be remarked that it was a good red and not bobbed for we have seen it several times, it is in the Museum in the Philosophical Gardens in York, England, together with the stone coffin in which it was found, and a number of other dug up things. Now that Philosophical stares at us in black and white, it does not look quite right, Why Philosophical in connection with Gardens? but Philarmonic or Philo anything else would be just as inappropriate and yet we know it was something like that and we come to the reason for grabbing this little item. Forty years ago we assayed to teach mere children a lot of things we did not know ourselves, and in the course of the experiment landed in York, where a certain clergyman filled in his spare time by running a school, we were the junior master and had as one of very few privileges the entry into these philosophical gardens. Our first trip there was with the head, a learned but eccentric person, the immediate progress the other side of the gates is through a noble elm avenue from the roof of which came the noise of a bird convention unable to agree upon a candidate for president, as we entered it the head cried, "Look out!!' and put up an umbrella, innocently we asked, "What's the matter?" he merely ejaculated, "Crows," and fled, he had been there before, presumably in a new hat on Easter Sunday. In these gardens is a wonderful collection of ivies, possibly the most complete anywhere, varying much in shape and size of leaf and color and they grow on the old wall built by the Romans before the Mission San Diego was started. hard as that may be for some to believe. We wish we had an excuse to tell more of that minister who warded off the attacks of crows with an umbrella, but the rest of the acts of the reverend and all that he did cannot excusably be recorded in a garden magazine editorial, perhaps some time the Early Bird might sketch an interview.

However it does seem appropriate, as the above quoted adventure undoubtedly supplied the origin to give the well-known story current in the time of Queen Anne and therefore old enough to pass in these days of Queen Bob. A certain man went walking on Easter Sunday in a new silk hat, a passing crow accurately bombed that hat as he flew. It's owner removing it regarded the damage, being a philosopher, he did not swear, but remarked, "It's a good thing cows don't fly."

This is the first number of Volume Sixteen of the California Garden. As editor of so much of the fifteen years work of the past we face the future a trifle shopworn and we did so inform the powers that be, the Directors of The San Diego Floral Association. They merely smiled, we hardly dared say grinned, two ladies being in the number, and remarked what has been done can be done again, and that is the difficulty, we feel the iminent danger of doing the same old thing. In our distress we have fallen back upon the great American backstop, the Committee, and propose to have a large Committee to help to make California Garden better than ever and more diversified. At the ultimate end of evrything, success or failure, is personality and especially is this true in an organ such as California Garden, its charm has been its difference from like magazines and this difference ran right back to the difference in the folks that made it. They one and all knew nothing about running a magazine, few of them knew anything about writing, and not a one had ever belonged to a class for writers either by personal instruction or by grace of the mail. Now fifteen years has given us the rudiments of an education and we may lose out on the "difference" and realizing this we propose a Committee for the magazine of markedly different people and all Floral members who feel that they qualify and are willing to work, are invited to communicate with us either by letter or at the meetings. We expect the telephone, we are inarticulate and decidedly cross over it, it is too intimate and makes us take snapshots at answering quite important questions. Years ago we worked in an insurance office in London, England, it had a telephone but distrusted it and never did business through it except a messenger went round on foot and confirmed its findings. One Saturday we, a Junior among Juniors, had a call to this telephone. We went to the mouthpiece while the whole office held its breath. Shouting into the hole we asked, what was the matter? a rumble like an approaching storm came over the wire and nothing but rumbles could we get. Then the official listener took a hand, or rather an ear, and after fierce concentration said, "The money is locked," do you understand that we frankly admitted we did not, but he could do no better and there the matter rested for half an hour, when the captain of our cricket team called and inquired, "Why did you not answer me over the telephone?" and then light broke, his name was Locke and he had been shouting, "The Name is Locke", vainly for ten minutes. This is the true story of why we hate the telephone and are so often rude through it. It has so often betrayed us to solicitors of all kinds, and every telephone bell we ever heard had a distinctly impertinent insistent tone, and alas! we no longer can fail to understand what is being said.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

The United States Civil Service Commission announces the following open competitive examination:

Senior Economist (Farm Management

Applications will be rated as received until September 30. The examination is to fill vacancies in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture, at an entrance salary of $5,200 a year. Advancement in pay may be made without change in assignment up to $6,000 a year.

The duties of this position are to outline and direct investigational and research work in connection with the study of economic problems relating to farm management and operation and the correlation of this work with that being carried on by various State agencies.

Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place, but will be rated on their education, experience, and fitness, and a thesis or discussion to be filed with the application.

Assistant Entomologist

Receipt of applications will close August 12. The examination is to fill vacancies in the Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture, at an entrance salary of $2,400 a year. Advancement in pay may be made without change in assignment up to $3,000 a year.

Applicants must have been graduated from a college of recognized standing, specializing in the course of entomology, and have had at least two years' experience in control work of the Japanese beetle either by use of soil insecticides or by use of fungus or bacterial diseases against the Japanese beetle.

The duties of the position are to conduct experiments with insecticides in the control of the Japanese beetle grubs, and in the utilization of bacterial and fungus diseases against the Japanese beetle.

Competitors wil not be required to report for examination at any place, but will be rated on their education, training, and experience, and writings to be filed with the application.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the board of U. S. civil service examiners at the postoffice or cusom house in any city.

Notice of August Meetings will appear in Daily Press.

ON THE GLADIOLUS

By Ralph F. Cushman.

The Gladiolus is now becoming known as "Everybody's Flower", for it is undoubtedly one of the easiest grown and will bloom naturally at that season of the year when flowers are scarce.

It is not my object at this time to cover the complete life cycle of the Glad, but rather to call attention to the various forms and handling of flowers. From a botanical standpoint the forms are four:

1. Normal or zygomorphic those which divide into two regular halves and the flowers face one way.

2. Atavistic or reverse those which turn to earlier characteristics, the flowers face two directions and the spike is erect.

3. Regular or actinomorphic, division by two halves on two planes, flowers face two ways, also erect.

4. Semi-plethoric, those of abnormal regularity, flowers face one way and are inclined to be upright. This latter form is the one with which we are the most familiar.

Another classification as to form might be as follows:

1. Landscape, tall, sturdy, stiff, upright stem, large open bright flowers, flowers that do not bleach in the hot sun when left on the plant.

2. Decorative or commercial, the type best used by the florists. Flowers must face one way and colors must harmonize.

3. Ruffled or fluted forms. Kunderd and Diener varieties.

4. Laciniated forms, rather too new to be common, with a dissected or fringed flower.

5. Primulinus hybrid type, small, graceful flower spikes, pleasing shades of yellow, orange and red, flowers hooded.

6. Exhibition type. Large, well developed flowers and spike. Well opened flowers of distinct usually solid colors. Flowers should face one way and be rigid, durable and of distinct form.

Ordinarily from planting to bloom from 70 to 110 days is consumed.

In cutting flowers it is best to leave three or four leaves in order to mature a good corm and cormels for the coming season. Generally the best way to cut the flower spike is upward parallel to the leaves, however, if it is desired to get all the stem possible, a sharp knife may be slid down along the stem slicing the fourth leaf loose from the stem on one side and the third loose on the other side so that they remain attached to the corm. After passing below these leaves turn the edge of the knife into the stem and when this has been done from each side the stem may be snapped out, leaving four leaves attached to the bulb.

Some varieties, such as Halley and Wilbrink, which have wide spaces between the leaves may be cut by making a horizontal slice across the stem and bending the spike away from the cut, when it will snap loose and may be slipped out of the leaves though some of the leaves will be torn.

Frequently when planted singly or far apart, spikes need some supporting stake. This may be lessened somewhat by deep planting and by cutting the spikes when the first flowers open, thus removing the over-balancing top growth.

If you desire to get the full benefit of a flower indoors, cut it when the first bud begins to unfold and place it in cold water for a couple of hours in the shade before placing in an exposed place. Be sure and keep plenty of fresh water in the container at all times, in which your cut Glads are placed, as they are hard drinkers, especially when first cut. A cut Glad having been placed in cold water in the shade for from four to six hours may be taken out and packed for shipment without ice, wet moss or any other preserving agency and survive satisfactorily after traveling three or four days. This is a rather remarkable achievement for a cut flower which is supposed to be one of the most perishable of creations.

To have the flowers last and look their best when cut, about ½ inch of stem should be cut off diagonally each day and the stem placed in fresh water, withered flowers should be removed close to the stem leaving nothing but the axil, if handled in this manner the flowers should bloom clear to the tip and the last flowers should be nearly as good as the first with the majority of varieties.

Cut flowers should have a couple of hours of sunshine each day in order to preserve the best color.

As many early planted bulbs have now finished their blooming and growing season it may not be remiss to sketch their care. Unless it is desired to save seed the flower spike should be removed from the plant before it has gone completely to seed as otherwise a large proportion of the strength of the bulb will go to maturing the seed. When the leaves have commenced to turn brown loosen the ground by putting the spade in about 6 inches from the plant and pushing it down well below the bulb, raising the soil slightly first on one side then on the other. When the soil has been loosened in this manner the bulbs may be pulled up by the tops and stood in a box in the shade for a day or two when the bulbs may be cut off from the top with about ½ inch of stem. After drying and curing in the shade for a week or 10 days, the old corm on the bottom may be pulled off along with all the old roots, leaving nothing but the bright, clean bulb to store for another year.

These bulbs may be tied in a sack and hung from a nail or beam in some convenient place or they may be stored in an open box or basket where the air can get to them, this latter is preferred where one has many to keep over. One should be sure the cormels are entirely dry and no leaves or other matter stored with them as this is apt to start mold. Also all cuts or abrasions should be dusted with sulphur for the same reason. The corms should never be stored more than one layer thick for best keping. When the old corm was removed the little cormels were noticed clustered around the bottom. These may be carefully saved if desired and after being dried can be placed in sand until the next planting season. The cormels should be kept in this manner to prevent them from drying out too much and the shell from getting too hard, thus preventing easy germination. Further information in regard to handling the corms and cormels just prior to planting will be given later.

Acknowledgement is hereby given for some matter herein to Prof. A. H. Tomlinson.

BURNED FORESTS DEPLETE WILD LIFE IN MANY WAYS

Field workers of the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, and any others who are interested in the conservation of wild life, are asked to assist the bureau in determining what damage has been done to bird and animal life through the burning of timberlands. Records of the Forest Service show that about 75,000,000 acres o timber-producing lands were burned over in the past seven years. It is a conservative to say that each year in the United States 10,000,000 acres of land clothed with sufficient inflammable material to carry fire are burned. This includes every type of land, from the tidewater marshes of the Gulf of Mexico to the timber-line areas of the Canadian border and Alaska. It is these lands which are the breeding and feeding places of many quail, grouse, turkeys, deer, and other large and small game and fur bearers. Ducks and geese are also affected by such fires, in the destruction of shelter, food, and nesting material.

Information is especially requested on the following plants: (1) Instances of birds or mammals klled by forest or grass fires, including destruction of birds' nests. (2) Instances of birds or mammals having left frequented feeding and breeding grounds as a result of fire. (3) Observations which show how soon birds and mammals return to lands from which they have been driven by fire. (4) Effect of repeated burning upon bird and other animal life. It is assumed that repeated burnings, in addition to destroying absolutely many plants, as well as numerous insects and other invertebrates, improverish sand, clay, and peat soils by the destruction of vegetable matter which should become a part of the soil and furnish the nitrogenous elements so necessary to growing plants; and that this soil impoverishment results in less plant life to furnish cover and feed for wild life. (5) Causes of fires damaging or injurious to wild life and steps that may be taken to prevent them.

Information obtained, it is hoped, will lead all wild-life devotees to work actively for fire prevention in this country.

OPEN SEASON FOR POISON IVY

Poison ivy seems to have a special mission for spoiling vacations, and now that vacation time is here, attention turns toward the plant and its menace. Those who are risking infection will want to read about ivy-posioning, its prevention and cure, in James B. McNair's book, "Rhus Dermatitis." (University of Chicago Press.)

Mr. McNair has set forth facts about poison ivy which may save the vacationists infinite discomfort. He has made identification of the plant easy, has told how to avoid infection, and how best to effect a cure. Contrary to popular opinion, the poison is not carried by the air or the pollen, but is held in the sap, coming to the surface only when the plant is injured. To avoid touching the plant is, therefore, the best preventative, but the poison may reach the susceptible person by way of intermediate agents.

As a complete preventative, McNair advises washing the exposed surface of the body with a solution of 5% iron chloride in 50% alcohol and water. This application will render harmless any ivy poison it touches; prevent the action of the poison before it enters the skin, and stop its spread from one part of the body to another. This substance was known to alchemists hundreds of years ago. It was used as remedy for poison ivy in 1885, and by 1895 was known to act chemically on the poison. Mr. McNair, however, was the first to discover that iron chloride could render the poison innocuous.

This substance will work no miracle; its application will not immediately heal ivy-blistered skin. The injury caused by the poison is similar to a burn, and will not heal in a day. As the Great War has shown, the best remedy for burns is paraffin, and it is this substance that McNair has found most effective in stopping the pain and assisting in the repair of ivy-blistered skin. Vacationists who wish to avoid having their vacation ruined by the ivy plant will do well to include some iron-chloride mixture and a few paraffin candles in their kits. But before they start, let them read "Rhus Dermatitis!"

AUGUST WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO

Temperature records at San Diego show that midsummer is reached in August, as it is during the latter half of this month that the daily mean temperature is at its highest. Although the days are warm, they are not hot, and the nights are always mild and comfortable. The thermometer has gone above 90 degrees but three times in the past 53 Augusts, and days with temperature over 80 degrees are by no means common.

So little rain falls during this period that it might be termed an accident, and, as no severe storms occur, no high winds have been recorded. Most of the time the wind is from the ocean and is gentle and cooling.

There is an appreciable increase in the amount of sunshine over the preceding months, and the majority of the days are clear with little cloudiness or fogginess except during the early morning hours.

Owing to the lack of hot days, convectional action is absent and therefore thunder storms are extremely rare. One occurs every four years, on an average, and then is usually a westerly drift from "Sonoras" in the mountains.

DEAN BLAKE, Meteorologist.

FLOWER GARDEN

Con'd from Pge. 5

giving longer stems and clearer blooms; this is especially so with the new Rainbow type, the majority of them burn badly in the sun. This is shown with the pink "General Pershing" grown under cover. It is a beautiful rose pink, outside a dirty red. paper white need shade and abundant moisture to give good long stems.

The last of the monthp ut in Calendula for winter blooms. "Orange Ball" and "Lemon Queen" are the best types—also a sowing of Mignonette. There is a new type on the market offered, "Pyramidalis", growing two feet high and giving long spikes of bloom. I have a suspicion that this may prove to be "Reseda Mexicana", tree Mignonette, grown by many here. I am very fond of Mignonette, and there is scarcely a decoration that you cannot find a place to tuck in a few sprigs for its fragrance. Centaureas, "Cornflower", can also be sown at the same time. Get the seed of the double as they give a fuller bloom. There are several colors offered now, but the pure blue is the best and the most popular.

In the flower garden keep all weeds down. All dead bloom picked off, and all straggling branches cut from shrubs. Keep vines tied up closly to prevent whipping by the wind.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

Con'd from Pge. 5

sure and get through the manure and then allow enough to penetrate the ground to a good depth.

And now, taking it for granted that you late gardeners have succeeded in starting a nice lot of young stuff, remember that the snails, slugs, beetles, etc., are always on the lookout for something fresh and tender, so look up last month's number for the means for discouraging them in their nefarious work! By the way, don't forget to set out a few strong herb plants, such as thyme, mint, sage, etc., also chives and parsley, they all add wonderfully in the making of appetizing dishes, particularly since it is so difficult to obtain certain liquids which they tell me had a wonderful effect in an appetizing way!

DAHLIA NEWS

Supplied by the Dahlia Committee of the San Diego Floral Association
Alford B. Partridge, Chairman; Emily T. Mould, Ralph F. Cushman

The Fall Flower Show will stage the largest and finest exhibition of Dahlias in its history. This is assured by two facts. First: Our two largest commercial growers have purchased hundreds of the best Dahlias the markets afford. This fact alone means several acres more devoted to Dahlia growing this season. Among their Dahlias will be found every type known to the Dahlia world. They have purchased in dozen lots bulbs of Dahlias that have won highest honors in the shows throughout the country. These growers are asking for as much exhibition space this year as was used for the entire Dahlia exhibit last lear. Second: Many new exhibitors have announced their intention of competing, and several of our most promient amateurs have purchased dozens of varieties never before displayed in our shows. New types of Dahlias, as well as several hundred new varieties, will lend such a riot of color to the Fall Show that those attending might well be prompted to sing with the poet, Harriet G. Willhide:

"Ah! the shades of bronze and yellow,
Purple, lavender and rose
In the evening light so mellow,
Ere night comes in soft repose.
Dahlias, orchid tinted dahlias,
Crimson, mauve, and snowy white,
Blooming valiantly, all summer,
'Til bent low by Autumn's blight."

The Dahlia committee urges every member of this Association to talk Dahlias and the Fall Show to their friends from now until the Show. If you will do this, we feel that those who attend through your efforts will talk Dahlias, the Show and our Association for months afterwards, greatly to the benefit of the Floral Association.

Among the 7,000, or more, Dahlias registered by The American Dahlia Society, there are hundreds of magnificent varieties. In order to determine the most popular varieties, that Society, at the time of its New York Show last Fall, requested growers to send in a list of the twelve Dahlias that each "found the most popular, most called for and most in the public eye." The more than twenty trade exhibitors replying included in their lists 110 varieties. The names of the Dahlias appearing on more than five replies, with the number of votes received, follow:

Mariposa, 11; Mrs. I. de Ver Warner, Mrs. Carl Salbach and Ambassador, 10 each; Paul Michael, 8; Earl Williams, Insulinde and Rosa Nell, 7 each; Millionaire, Emperor, Amun Ra, George Walters, F. W. Fellows and Judge Marean, 6 each.

The report of that show states that an audit of all competition classes showed that Pierrot was prominently featured in 16 displays, Edna Spencer in 14 and Rosa Nell in 9.

Derrill W. Hart in his article, "Dominant Dahlias", in the March number of The Garden Magazine, included in his list nine of those mentioned above. Mr. Hart's article is not only very interesting but exceedingly valuable to the grower as he attempts to name the leading prize-winning varieties of each type under the various colors. The 67 varieties mentioned by him have been consistent prize-winners,, both east and west.

The Chairman of the Dahlia Committee is pleased to be able to state that not only the 16 Dahlias referred to by name above but also the great majority of the Dahlias referred to in Mr. Hart's article will be exhibited by one or more persons at the Fall Show. It will therefore be interesting to those attending to compare the 16 Dahlias referred to above with dozens of other Dahlias, all practically as popular, as prominent and as consistent prize-winners as those have proven to be.

PRIZES FOR DAHLIAS

In addition to the Silver Cup offered last year by President Alfred D. Robinson, Mr. Ralph Cushman has offered a $10.00 silver cup for the best collection of Pompon Dahlias exhibited by an amateur at the Fall Flower Show and $5.00 of Dahlia bulbs for best collection of Pompons exhibited by a novice. Mrs. Alford B. Partridge has offered at $10.00 silver cup for the best display of Dahlias by a novice, and Mr. Alford B. Partridge has offered in the Novice Class four prizes of five bulbs each. Miss Emily Mould's liberal offer of prizes has previously been printed in the California Garden. As exhibitors make a show, who will be next to offer a substantial prize in the Dahlia Section of the Fall Show?

A. B. PARTRIDGE.

DAHLIA GARDEN VISITS

Mr. Fred Hyers of 3852 Fourth street, has a valuable collection of standard varieties of Dahlias and should prove a strong competitor among the amateurs. Having planted late his plants will come to full bloom at the right time for the show. The few blooms he has

Continued on Page 13

A HUMMING BIRD VISIT TO BALBOA PARK

By Pearl LaForce Mayer.

Now I live in a beautiful San Diego garden where there are many flowers and tall trees, but every little while I give my wings an extra good preening and then I rise and dash joyously over to Balboa Park early in the morning and treat myself to new honey flavors from the Park flowers.

Being a humming bird I especially dote upon long tubular flowers which carry deep pockets of honey. It is in the Park that I find the many vareties of these tubular flowers which call to my esthetic appetite.

A few days ago I made one of these trips to Balboa Park and spent the morning. I first flew to the rose garden and took a look around. There are not such a profusion of roses in bloom just now as there were in the spring, but I noticed that some roses labelled "Los Angeles", "Radiance", "Mrs. Wakefield", and "Christie Miller" were trying to keep up the reputation of the garden.

There was a sort of hedge at one side of the rose garden, which interested me much more than roses, for it had deep throated yellow flowers and there I lingered quite a while sipping honey until another humming bird—a coarse rude fellow with one eye who lives in the park—came and drove me away. I flew across the big bridge and noticed that the lagoon under the bridge was a solid mass of lilly pads and tall pink water lillies but I did not visit them, but flew on into the secluded part of the Park called Montezuma Garden. It is a lovely place surrounded by tall trees and shrubs and by vines which clamber over archways.

The large garden bed in the center had fifteen thousand pansy plants in it last spring, but now it contains zinnias not yet in blossom. Around the sides of the garden I found hibiscus blossoms in all shades of pinks and reds, lovely dripping fuchsias and heliotropes where I thought I might enjoy a honeyed hour, but to my chagrin I discovered that the place was fairly alive with humming birds who pushed and shoved and even fought over the rights to every flower. It was too noisy and too much like a fourth of July crowd at a beach to suit me, so I left the rude creatures and flew on over to the garden behind the organ pavilion.

It was quite beautiful there with a large bed of Los Angeles roses in full bloom, with many beds of mammoth dahlias of all colors just coming into bloom and with a fine display of Fire Bird Cannas.

There were many noisy humans walking about among the flower beds, and being a fellow who enjoys peace and quiet I decided to go over in the direction of the big lath house.

On my way over I noticed that the Bougainvillea vines were spreading masses of brilliant magenta blossoms but I did not stop for I do not care much for their honey.

I also noticed that the magnolia trees and the flaming eucalyptus trees were in bloom. As I passed over the lilly pools I saw there a profusion of pink and blue water lillies in bloom and many humans stood about admiring them, or sketching or taking kodac pictures of them.

There were not many flowers in bloom about the gardens in front of the lath house except fuchsias, hibiscus and the blue lillies called agapanthus, for these gardens are planted mostly to trees and shrubs which, about the edges of the lawns, give a delightful cool green and secluded effect.

I started to rest awhile in a banana tree but was set upon by two big, fat, brown birds who had a nest in a nearby tree. I didn't care to dispute my rights with them, not feeling in a combative mood that morning, so I moved on. I whirred into the big lath house but found very few blossoms there except begonias. It was mostly a cool jungle of palms and ferns and such so I whirred on out and looked about until I found an open transom in the glass house, I flew in and spent a pleasant hour among the tropical plants and flowers. Here I found some most pleasing flowers labeled, "Anthurium Schrezerianum". They looked something like a calla lilly would look if it were mashed out flatter and were colored red. I did not get honey from them but I found one very large one whose saucer had been filled with water when the gardener sprinkled. In this dainty tub I took a most delightful humming bird bath and then sat in a tropical bread fruit vine until I dried my feathers.

I then flew out the transom and visited the flowers along a path out back of the glass house for awhile. There were many varieties there which yielded honey delightful to the appetite of the most exacting humming bird.

I poised above some brilliant red tubular flowers near a wall and heard voices just on the other side of the wall. I peered over. Two humans, a he and a she, sat on a bench in a secluded nook. Just then the he said to the she, "Your eyes are two lovely flowers." That interested ME. I quickly whirred over in front of the she human and took a look, but saw nothing but ordinary big blue eyes. I flew away in disgust.

I next visited the Japanese Tea Garden. I watched the gold fish in the little miniature lake for awhile and then replete with honey and with satisfaction I flew up into a wistaria vine and started to express the joy of my soul in song. As I was singing my most beautiful high notes two humans stopped in the path, not far off, and the she human said, "Just listen to that little humming bird squeaking." I was filled with disgust at such

lack of appreciation and suddenly thought of how greatly Mrs. Humming Bird appreciated my wonderful voice. Ah! At this thought I also remembered that I had stolen off for the whole morning and left Mrs. Humming Bird to feed our nest full of demanding youngsters all by herself! Oh, boy! What a humming I would get when I returned! But duty called —I raised my wings and darted toward my own garden home.

DAHLIA GARDEN VISITS

Continued from page 11

allowed to mature would grace any exhibition.

Mr. William Greb, 730 West Washington street, formerly a commercial grower of Seattle, in the two months he has resided in San Diego, has planted and brought to the blooming point 300 choice Dahlia plants composed of 186 distinct varieties. Mr. Greb's Dahlias are mostly varieties originated in the Northwest and his collection will prove a valuable addition to the standard varieties now being grown here. Mr. Grab's Dahlias will be heard from in the show, if one may judge from the few magnificent blooms already matured. When he secures the acreage he is seeking he will be heard from as a commercial grower.

Walking along paths on terraced slopes, the ocean breezes laden with the perfume of countless varieties of flowered plants, and with music-throated birds entrancing the listening air, words fail one to describe the artistic setting provided for the 300 beautiful Dahlia plants of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Kahn, on the three and one-half acres at their residence, 3170 Curlew street; and all accomplished in the brief space of one year! The Associotion appreciated the bulb exhibit so kindly entered at the Spring Show by Mr. and Mrs. Kahn and look forward with interest to their Dahlia entry at the Fall Show.

One will travel far to find a garden of classier Dahlias than at 2769 Roscrans street, Loma Portal, the residence of Captain D. F. Sellers, Commandant of the Naval Training Station. Here over 20 varieties of the finest of registered Dahlias greet one. Immense perfect blooms of Amun Ra, Dr. Tevis, Mrs. Carl Salbach Rosa Nell. The Grizzly, Insulinde. The Millionaire and Yellow Aster are only a few of the best known varieties noted. Captain Sellers also may well be proud of the fine blooms he has secured thus far from his plants raised from seed imported from England. The Fall Dahlia Show will find in Captain Sellers an enthusiastic exhibitor, greatly to the benefit of the Show and the enjoyment of all attending.

ALFORD B. PARTRIDGE.

In the next issue the readers will be taken on a visit to Lincoln Acres, where Howell and Jackson have planted several acres to the finest varieties of every type of Dahlia. Meanwhile motor out that way.

Begonia Brevities

We filled that large order spoken of last month and are now prepared to entertain all comers for Rexes or anything else. BUT we do wish we could make folks understand that we are not selling small plants, or doing a nursery business, we have neither the stock, the room nor the inclination. Last week a caller found our seedling Rexes of 1923, and was sure here was something cheap, whereas money could not buy them, till we have seen what they are.

All this does not mean we don't want to sell. WE do, we want to supply specimen plants for those who want immediate effect or don't have the facilities for handling little stuff. Our cheapest Rex is $5, we think it is worth that much to take care of a plant of such delicacy and temperament for three years or more, it means counting time less than the wage of the cheapest form of labor.

Don't embarass us by calling with two-bits.

Just now Regular tuberous are showing color every day, they are $15 per dozen in pots.

Any porch can be improved with a good specimen Ricinafolia, we have them in attractive boxes at from $10 up. And by the way it has taken ten years to get a dozen specimens from one large one.

Remember, Wednesday and Saturday, between ten and four are regular sales days, other times by appointment only.

ROSECROFT BEGONIA GARDENS

POINT LOMA, CALIF.

Alfred D. Robinson, Prop.

CHRYSANTHEMUM INSECT PESTS

Insects occasion large annual losses to florists who specialize in raising chrysanthemums, because the ideal atmosphere conditions under which these flowers are grown not only favor the plants but enable insect pests to thrive and multiply rapidly the year around. Chrysanthemums rank among the more valuable productions of the florist. Losses due to insect pests may be largely prevented by proper care based on knowledge of the insects and their habits.

The chrysanthemum midge and the greenhouse leaf-tyer attack the foliage; aphids and the common red spider suck the plant juices; cutworms sever the plant stems near the soil, and also attack the flower buds, ruining the blossoms. Thrips, white flies, chrysanthemum leaf-miners, caterpillars and leaf-beetles are also troublesome and destructive. Insecticides used are stomach poisons or contact poisons, according to the habits of the insect to be combated. In some cases fumigation with tobacco or hydrocyanic-acid gas is highly effective.

In Farmers' Bulletin 1306, Insect Enemies of Chrysanthemums, by Charles A. Weigel, entomologist, the most destructive of these pests are described and control measures are suggested, together with formulas for insecticides and fumigants. The bulletin, which is of interest to florists, gardeners, and extension entomological workers, may be obtained on application to the United States Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C.

"In a green old garden, hidden away
From sight of revel and sound of strife,
Here have I leisure to breathe and move,
And to do my work in a nobler way."

BEGONIA RICINAFOLIA

That best of all tub Begonia, Ricinafolia must now be given good treatment, its bloom stalks and handsome leaves are developing fast, don't let it dry and give a little liquid fertilizer occasionally. It is aggravating that this fine old kind is so slow of propogation. So far division seems the only way, though I have heard that it will grow from the leaf like Rexes, all I can say is that though always trying I have never done this yet. Division is very slow, about every second year, that is if you wish good plants, and it never should be cheap, however, it is at the top in its class. The Ecuador native introduced through seed obtained by Miss Sessions seems much like it in habit and a plant now five years old is very handsome.

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THE LATHHOUSE

By Alfred D. Robinson.

We have not had ideal lathhouse weather yet, nights have been too cool and the days too windy, these conditions make watering a difficult problem and it has been better to err on the dry side. Tuberous begonias especially, seem unable to stand any check in their growth, they grow or they damp off. Dampening off has been more prevalent than usual and to the changes in temperature I put the blame. The cooler parts of the lathhouse seem to have stood conditions the better. There is nothing to do for this trouble but grin and bear it and put the pot aside to see if the tuber is still good. The regular form tuberous should be coming along fast, be sure and stake before needed, and when well budded, weak liquid manure can be given once a week. The largest blooms are secured by keeping off seed pods. One of the latest of the tuberous group to bloom is Martiana which some folks call the Hollyhock begonia, a descriptive but quite unauthorized title, it has not bloomed yet though one is showing color. It is possible that its comparative scarcity is due to a lack of appreciation of this late growth for it should be the very easiest of culture, as it makes bulblets freely in the axils of the leaves and these come readily the next year—at the appointed time. I sought to hurry them up by giving them heat, it had no effect and those so treated, others in flats in the greenhouse, and the ones spilled on the bench in the lathhouse all started within a very short time of one another. It should be very effective massed or as borders, though Mrs. Bullard of Watsonia fame, from whom my stock came, says she has grown them three feet tall.

Cuttings of all fibrous kinds should go in now, either in a sand bench or in the ground. Don't use too large pieces, for though they will grow they will not finally make as good plants, nor use the old spent wood this produces plants like Gilbert's precocious baby. Remember that Begonias are not long-lived, they need renewing and once having a start there is no excuse for the oft told tale, "I used to have it, but lost it." We have all whined this way, that simply classes us but is no excuse.

I have been charmed and visitors have gushed over a Justicia that Mrs. Waite gave

GLAD TIDINGS

Are yours if you have no Thrip on your Dahlias. If you have you better get busy with the Black Leaf 40 and spray at least twice per week. The early morning is the best time to apply. Some growers advocate spraying every morning. They are practically impossible, (the thrip), to see with the naked eye, but you can see where the coloring matter is gone from the leaves in streaks. If you have a powerful glass look for a small quick-moving green insect about the buds, and axils of the leaves. I use ½ teaspoonful to a quart of water and a spoonful of Citrus Washing Powder or some equivalent to make it stick. Be sure and stir well and strain before filling the spraygun. The straining will probably save some time and perhaps some harsh thoughts. Don't cuss the spray gun if it is your own fault.

If you have some of your earliest Glad bulbs drying now and the old corm on the bottom is dry, snap it off and about the middle of October you can plant these bulbs. They should give you some very early and out of season flowers.

RALPH F. CUSHMAN - GROWER OF GLADIOLI

BOX 5-A *Point Loma, California*

me a few years back. It is deep pink flowered with dark wine colored leaves and now reaches to the top of the lathhouse, fourteen feet. My only complaint in its connection is that I have to do so much explaining that it is not a Begonia and do it over so many times to the same people. It wants room and must be supported but is wonderfully effective. Miss Sessions has given me the lighter pink with light green foliage of which there are fine specimens at the four corners of the tea-room in the Scripps La Jolla House, it seems to be more bushy than the other. Of course these will grow outside but so will many begonias and one ought not to object to a little hardihood in a plant, especially if you buy and don't sell. Turning to Bailey (I wish I could have the new edition at the Floral Home) I find that Justicias are a large genus, perhaps 100, and then it says that it is not known that any true Justicias are in the American trade, so I turn to Jacobinia and find that Jacobinia, this or that may be Justicia in the trade and I give it up, or turn it over to you to investigate at the Floral Home with the concluding remark that I am sure Mrs. Waite, at the time of presentation, was emphatic about its being a Justicia, not a Jacobinia, and who am I to question it.

Year by year I am more impressed with the need of patience in the lathhouse, the present impression being caused by a fern that Mr. Gorton loved, or at least he loved its simple name, Gonophlebium Subariculatum, or something easy like that. It is quite approachable in spite of that name and could pass for a Nephrolepis. I have had one for years, if I said twenty I should be no more untruthful than ordinary and it has lived in the same hanging basket, did I say lived, it was a gross exaggeration, it has existed, while every other growth has tried to oust it from its dwelling place. Always I have watched it, changed its soil and location, and I fear cussed it, and this year I thought, darn you, I will put you in the canary house and see what happens, but I took it out quickly, for the birds, undeterred by its horrific name promptly ate off its only new frond. Now it's a changed fern, it has given up its sulk of decades and is growing handsomely and bids fair to partly justify the book's description of growing fronds sixteen feet long. Some folks will remember one on a post in the old Exposition grounds that hung to the water. I have one other time tester, a little bulbous plant with narrow grass-like leaves that I inherited from a lady whose daughter sent it up from Mexico about Fremont's time, she turned it over to me with this much of its history more than twenty years ago, and added that it never bloomed, and I add it never has, nor has it increased in size, and it still occupies a three inch pot, though that pot has been in heat and cold and shade and sunshine till it makes me sweat to see it and realize all the work it has caused me. If any reader with Mexican blood in their veins and a working knowledge of Mexican plants, feels they could make this plant either bloom or die, let them apply for it at Rosecroft, but I shall want pretty clear specifications of ability and character before parting with it, because it belongs to the dear old days of long ago when I had good teeth of my own.

I may be mighty ignorant about many things, but thanks to Mrs. Waite, Mrs. Frevert and Mrs. Fleetwood I have room for astonishment at a statement made in The Flower Grower by a lady with a large collection of Begonias under the heading, Diadema Begonia, she says it is quite distinct from all other varieties of Begonia. In case some folks read both papers I would like to say that there are these others in the same class, Clementina, a finer foliaged variety, Diadema Erecta, a larger and better grower than the old Diadema and Palmata, a still larged one, but all are distinctly of the same class, I say with shame that the last is the only one I have now, though I should be glad to get the others. Another variety somewhat similar in growth though with entire round leaves, a light green in color, is Palmafolia or Washington iana. This latter must not be confused with the entirely different variety known as Washington Street, from its being found in a garden on Washington street in San Diego, this is a medium growing branching sort with small leaves about twice the size of Fuschioides and the same shape and an insignificant white flower. It is quite unattractive and not even peculiar.

I have seen more handsome Vernon or bedding type of Begonias this year than formerly, many right out in the blazing sun and I am sure that with this class is the best possibility of future development in hybridizing or merely selection of seed. They are much the hardiest, easiest and quickest grown from seed, and have a very long blooming season. In this connection it might be pointed out that this class should be continually cut back. Take out all long stalks directly they are weedy and right to the ground, they are continually making new growth from below if allowed. There is a variety called Seashell, originating with Mrs. Theodosia Shepherd, who did so much for Begonias, a white pink edged sort with great vigor, lately I have potted some specimens over two feet high and they are most effective. At Rosecroft occurred two sports from this, one pure white and the other an orange bordered. It is in the medium growing class that we need more varieties and one of the best, the old Sylvia, has almost disappeared. The three European ones, Sachsen, Preusen and Wurtemberg are good, but uncertain.

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